

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

On page 1, please amend the first paragraph as follows:

"This application is a divisional of U.S. Serial No. 10/104,502 filed March 22, 2002 invention which is a continuation-in-part of U.S. Serial No. 10/081,589 filed February 21, 2002; U.S. Serial No. 09/953,026 filed September 13, 2001; U.S. Serial No. 09/776,044; which issued issued on June 24, 2003 as U.S. Patent No. 6,584,132; filed February 1, 2001 U.S. Serial No. 09/768,753; filed January 23, 2001 which issued on July 2, 2002 as U.S. Patent No. 6,414,979; U.S. Serial No. 09/742,485 filed December 20, 2000; U.S. Serial No. 09/703,697; filed November 1, 2000 which issued on March 26, 2002 as U.S. Patent No. 6,363,094; U.S. Serial No. 09/590,961; filed June 9, 2000 which issued on October 15, 2002 as U.S. Patent No. 6,466,602; 09/590,958; filed June 9, 2000 which issued on May 6, 2003 as U.S. Patent No. 6,560,263; all of which are incorporated by reference herein.

On page 6 and continuing on page 7, please amend the following paragraph:

"BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

FIG. 1 shows a cross section of a chamber of a prior-art gas discharge laser.

FIG. 2 shows other features of the prior art laser.

FIG. 3 shows the principal features of a pulse power system of a prior-art gas discharge laser.

FIGS. 4A and 4B show electrical pulse shapes on the FIG. 3 pulse power system.

FIG. 5 is a cross section drawing of a prior art anode.

FIGS. 6, 6A, 7A-7E, 9 and 10A show preferred anode cross sections.

FIG. 6B shows a section of a fluoride covered anode.

FIG. 6C is a graph indicating electrode wear rates.

FIG. 6D illustrates discharger shift prevention according to the invention.

FIG. 6E compares horizontal profiles of discharge shift.

FIG. 7F shows an electrode configuration.

FIG. 7G shows electrodes shaped to provide a varying discharge width along the lengths of the electrodes.

FIGS. 8A and 8B show a preferred embodiment of the present invention.

FIG. 10B is a top view of the FIG. 10A anode.

FIG. 11 shows a current return-anode unit.

FIGS. 12A and 12B show cross-sections of aerodynamically designed chambers.

FIGS. 13A, 13B 13C and 14 describe plasma electrodes.

FIG. 15 also describes a plasma electrode.

FIGS. 16A and 16B compares a preferred embodiment with a prior art electrode.

FIG. 17 shows an improved electrode configuration for better pre-ionization.

FIG. 18 shows a technique for reducing fluorine caused anode erosion.”

On page 15, line 6 please amend the following paragraph:

“FIG. 6F 6B is a copy of a photograph showing a section of the discharge surface of the prototype anode discussed in detail above. The photograph was taken soon after the anode had been removed from the chamber. The photograph shows the 3.5 mm wide discharge surface covered with the porous fluoride insulating surface. Also evident on the photograph are two solder seams. The photograph shows some accumulation of fluoride material on part 1 on the downstream side of the electrode. This accumulation is very thin and has no effect on electrode performance. FIG. 6D illustrates discharger shift prevention according to the invention. FIG. 6E compares horizontal profiles of discharge shift.”

On page 26, line 23 please amend the following paragraph:

“Another approach is to provide a discharge shape which varies in the long direction of the discharge region. For example, FIG. 7G shows proposed discharge surfaces of a cathode and anode respectively. Arrow 7G1 points to a discharge shape at a first location in the discharge region and arrow 7G2 points to a second discharge shape in a second discharge region. Thus, the resulting reflecting shock wave from each discharge will be dispersed in time and thus its impact on the beam quality will be reduced. A similar technique is to slightly offset the anode with respect to the cathode so as to produce a discharge that deviates from vertical by a small angle such as about 5-10 degrees. This also has the effect of reducing the impact of the reflecting acoustic waves.”